

Examiner Interview Summary

On 3 June 2010, a telephonic interview was held with Examiner Siek, Examiner Chiang, Dr. Martin Walker, and the undersigned attorney of record.

In the interview, Dr. Walker explained his relationship with the patent owners as a technical consultant. Dr. Walker explained the invention in view of the technology in the mid-1990's in general terms. Dr. Martin explained that a process of determining an initial delay for a cell using "gain," and adjusting the size of a cell after placement to maintain that initial delay, is unlike the prior art. Examiner Siek expressed understanding of the invention as explained by Dr. Walker, and suggested that it was novel.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, was reviewed. The Examiners expressed concern that claim 2 does not match the explanation of the invention offered by Dr. Walker. The issue of interpretation of claim 2 was discussed and no agreement was reached.

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